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Letter dated 22 December 2003 from the Chairman of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1373 (2001) concerning counter-terrorism addressed to the President of the Security Council

I write with reference to my letter of 2 October 2003 (S/2003/965). The Counter-Terrorism Committee has received the attached third report from the United Arab Emirates submitted pursuant to paragraph 6 of resolution 1373 (2001). I would be grateful if you could arrange for the present letter and its annex to be circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Inocencio F. **Arias**
Chairman
Security Council Committee established pursuant to
resolution 1373 (2001) concerning counter-terrorism

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Annex

[Original: Arabic]

Letter dated 22 December 2003 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the United Arab Emirates addressed to the Chairman of the Counter-Terrorism Committee

With reference to your note No. S/AC.40/2003/MS/OC.315 dated 26 September 2003, I have the honour to transmit to you herewith, pursuant to paragraph 6 of Security Council resolution 1373 (2001), the third supplementary report of the United Arab Emirates on counter-terrorism, responding to the list of questions annexed to the above-mentioned note.

(*Signed*) Hamad Hareb **Al-Habsi**
Chargé d'affaires a.i.

Enclosure

[Original: Arabic]

Third report of the United Arab Emirates on additional information submitted to the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1373 (2001) concerning counter-terrorism

1. Implementation measures

1.1 The CTC has agreed on further questions and comments for the consideration of the Government of the United Arab Emirates with regard to the implementation of the Resolution, as set out in this section.

1.2 The CTC notes that, as stated in subparagraph 1 (a), at page 3 of the supplementary report, the circulars of the Central Bank of the United Arab Emirates have the force of law. Please provide the CTC with any provisions which establish penalties for violating the obligations introduced by those circulars.

Reply:

Provisions establishing penalties for violating the obligations introduced by the circulars of the Central Bank (regulations, circulars and notices issued by the Central Bank to banks, currency exchange offices and other financial institutions)

1. Federal Act No. 4 of 2002, concerning the crime of money-laundering. According to article 19 of the Act:

Anyone who breaches any other provision of this Act shall be liable to a penalty of imprisonment and a fine of up to one hundred thousand (100,000) dirhams and not less than ten thousand (10,000) dirhams;

2. Federal Act No. 10 of 1980, concerning the Central Bank, the monetary system and regulation of the banking profession

According to article 112 of the Act:

(1) If a commercial bank violates its statutes, the provisions of this Act or any procedure imposed by the Bank, or if it fails to submit the data and information required of it or submits information that is incomplete or does not correspond to the truth, in addition to the fines for obstruction specified in article 107 of the present Act, the Central Bank may inflict, on the commercial bank guilty of such violation, one of the following penalties:

(a) A warning;

(b) Reduction or suspension of the credit facilities extended to it;

(c) Its prohibition from performing certain transactions or the imposition of any other restrictions on its operations;

(d) Its removal from the register of banks.

1.3 The CTC notes that, as explained at page 3 of the supplementary report, all the institutions of State in the United Arab Emirates, including the courts, are bound in "many cases" to apply the provisions of international conventions and protocols,

although domestic legislation has not been adopted to give effect to the provisions of the said international instruments. The CTC would therefore be grateful if the United Arab Emirates could clarify the following points:

1.3.1 Do the United Arab Emirates apply the monist or dualist doctrine in relation to the ratification of international instruments? In that regard, could the United Arab Emirates provide the CTC with an outline of the relevant constitutional and/or legal provisions?

Reply:

There are no constitutional or legal provisions concerning the doctrine applied by the United Arab Emirates in relation to the ratification of international instruments. However, it is clear from actual practice that the State adopts the monist doctrine whenever the international instrument is ready to be applied without the need for the intervention of the national legislature. As for the cases in which the international instrument is incomplete, i.e. whenever it refers to general principles without going into details as to their application, the national legislature will intervene to enact appropriate legislation or laws to give effect to the international provisions using suitable mechanisms which it has designed for that purpose. The following constitutional provisions specify the authority competent for ratifying international instruments and for enforcing them in the domestic arena:

1. Article 46 of the Constitution, which states:

The Federal Supreme Council is the highest authority in the Federation. It consists of all the rulers of the Emirates that make up the Federation or whoever stands in for them in the respective Emirate, if they are absent or unable to attend. Each Emirate has one vote in Council proceedings;

2. Article 47, paragraph (4), of the Constitution, which stipulates:

The Supreme Council of the Federation deals with the following matters:

(4) Ratification of international treaties and conventions. Ratification is effected by decree;

3. Article 45, paragraph (4), of the Constitution, which provides:

The President of the Federation has competence for the following matters:

(4) He signs the federal laws, decrees and decisions approved and promulgated by the Supreme Council;

4. Article 60, paragraphs (4), (5) and (6), of the Constitution, which state:

The Council of Ministers, in its capacity as the executive branch of the Federation, assumes responsibility, subject to oversight by the President of the Federation and the Supreme Council, for all the internal and external affairs for which the Federation has competence under the Constitution. The Council of Ministers assumes the following functions in particular:

(4) Preparation of various draft decrees and decisions;

(5) Oversight of the implementation of federal laws, decrees, regulations and decisions by the relevant bodies in the Federation and the Emirates;

(6) Oversight of the implementation of federal court rulings and of international treaties and conventions concluded by the Federation.

1.3.2 Turning to the "various issues" mentioned at page 3 of the supplementary report, in which national courts apply international instruments even if domestic legislation has not been adopted to that effect, could the United Arab Emirates clarify for the CTC how its courts deal with those cases in which domestic legislation has to be adopted to give effect to the provisions of international instruments?

Reply:

When the United Arab Emirates becomes a party to any international instrument, that instrument will have binding force for all the State's courts — both local and federal — without the need for domestic legislation, if the international instrument can be invoked directly before the domestic courts. In cases in where it is not possible for a domestic judge or a domestic court to apply such an instrument directly or through a special mechanism, because it provides for the imposition of specific penalties or seeks the criminalization of specific acts, the legislature will have to enact legislation to cover those matters in order for the courts to be able to enforce the international instrument.

1.4 The CTC notes that the provisions contained in international instruments apply in national courts, even if domestic legislation has not been adopted in the United Arab Emirates. The CTC, however, also notes that some of the articles of the international instruments against terrorism to which the United Arab Emirates is already a party are not self-executing. Therefore, could the United Arab Emirates explain to the CTC how those non-self-executing articles, particularly those aimed at prohibiting the financing, planning, facilitating and/or committing of terrorist acts, are implemented by national courts, given that some of these articles merely address obligations which States are under an obligation to implement into their domestic legislation?

Reply

In reply to this question, we refer to our response to the previous list of questions and should like to confirm that the State is in the process of enacting a comprehensive law to cover all the issues raised.

1.5 The CTC notes, both from the United Arab Emirates' first and supplementary report, that it has undertaken both legal and other efforts to address the problem of money-laundering. As part of these efforts, in July 1998, the Central Bank of the United Arab Emirates established a unit to deal with money-laundering in July 1998. In that regard, the CTC wishes to highlight the difference between money-laundering and the financing of terrorism, namely that money used to fund terrorist activities may not necessarily be illegal as they are, by definition, in the case of money-laundering. Assets and profits acquired by legitimate means and even declared to the tax authorities can also be used to finance terrorist acts. Therefore the effective implementation of subparagraph 1 (b) of the Resolution requires Member States to have in place provisions specifically criminalizing the wilful provision or collection of funds by its nationals or in its territory by any person, by any means, direct or indirect, with the intention that the funds should be used, or in the knowledge that they are to be used, in order to carry out terrorist acts. For an act

to constitute an offence, as described above, it is not necessary that the funds are actually used to carry out a terrorist offence (see article 2, paragraph 3, of the International Convention for the Suppression of the Financing of Terrorism). The acts sought to be criminalized are thus capable of being committed even if:

- The only related terrorist act takes place or is intended to take place outside the country;
- No related terrorist act actually occurs or is attempted;
- No transfer of funds from one country to another takes place; or
- The funds are legal in origin.

Could the United Arab Emirates therefore provide the CTC with an outline of the domestic provisions which effectively implement this subparagraph of the resolution?

Reply:

The United Arab Emirates has introduced administrative procedures to prevent the collection of funds by its nationals or in its territory, by any means, for use in terrorist acts. It has revoked all the permits issued to entities including various associations and has restricted them to a number of associations that the Government oversees, such as the Red Crescent Society. These procedures also impose controls on approved associations with regard to their management, oversight and the appointment of auditors therefor. As mentioned in the previous supplementary report, the committee formed by the Minister of Justice, Islamic Affairs and Religious Endowments accords the utmost importance to this question and it continues to hold meetings to finalize the draft as soon as possible.

1.6 The CTC would welcome information on the conclusions reached by the committee, established by the Minister of Justice, Islamic Affairs and Religious Endowments, referred to at pages 5 and 10 of the supplementary report, in relation to bringing existing criminal law into line with terrorist offences of an international character.

Reply:

The committee referred to in point 1.6 above has held a number of meetings and has completed a review of all the criminal laws of the State, as well as of the relevant international instruments. It has developed hypotheses as to the possible method for incorporating the obligations introduced by those instruments, whether by enacting special legislation on terrorist crimes and related matters or by incorporating the proposed texts into existing penal laws.

1.7 Could the United Arab Emirates please explain to the CTC what legal and investigative techniques are being actively employed by the Ministry of Justice, Islamic Affairs and Religious Endowments; the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs; or any other relevant government bodies, whether financial or not, to monitor and control the use and movement of funds raised in the name of licensed charitable associations to assure that the funds are not being used to finance terrorism?

Reply:

In response to this question, we refer to the reply provided under point 1.5 of the list of questions. With regard to cooperative societies and charitable, social or professional associations, article 3, paragraph 2, of the Code of Procedures on Money-Laundering introduced in circular 24/2000, dated 14 November 2000, states:

A bank must not open accounts other than for those associations that present an original certificate, signed by His Excellency the Minister of Labour and Social Affairs, confirming their identity and that they have permission to open a bank account.

1.8 The CTC notes that the United Arab Emirates does not have at present laws governing parallel funds transfer systems, and that a conference on the "hawala" system was held in the period of 15 and 16 May 2002 in the United Arab Emirates which adopted a number of recommendations that are being examined by the United Arab Emirates, as explained at page 5 of the supplementary report. In that regard, the CTC would welcome receiving a progress report in relation to the conclusions of the aforementioned examination. In particular the CTC is interested in knowing whether the United Arab Emirates has adopted any provisions for regulating and monitoring alternative money transfer agencies (such as those known as "hawala"). If the answer to this question is in the affirmative the CTC would be grateful to receive an outline of those provisions. If the answer is in the negative, could the United Arab Emirates indicate a time frame in which those provisions are to be adopted?

Reply

The Central Bank of the United Arab Emirates has set up a system for registering and monitoring money transfer (*hawala*) agencies. The Bank placed an advertisement in the local newspapers, inviting money transfer agencies to register with it in order to obtain a free certificate and asking them to provide the Bank with details, on a pre-prepared form, about persons making and receiving money transfers. It also asked them to report suspicious transactions and suspicious cases to the anti-money-laundering unit.

By 17 December 2003, approximately 95 applications had been received from persons seeking a money transfer agency certificate. A total of 71 certificates have been issued to those who meet the criteria, while the remaining 24 applicants are completing the necessary steps in preparation for certification as money transfer agencies.

One of the most important results of the system established for the regulation of money transfer agencies is that the agencies are complying with the requirement to provide the Central Bank with details of money transfers that are requested and are made and they are reporting any suspicious transfers on the Central Bank's pre-prepared form. There is no doubt, therefore, that this system will do much to prevent money-laundering operations and will make it easier to obtain data on funds transferred by money transfer agencies whenever the need arises. By law, information, data and documentation relating to operations by money transfer agencies must be kept for not less than five years so that the information, data and documentation are available when necessary and can be used as evidentiary proof if so required.

1.9 Could the United Arab Emirates provide the CTC with an outline of article 21 of the Federal Criminal Code (Act No. 3 of 1987), referred to at page 10 of the supplementary report? Could it also provide the CTC with any other articles in the Code which extend the jurisdiction of the national courts of the United Arab Emirates to terrorist offences committed outside or directed from outside the United Arab Emirates against foreign countries by persons who are subsequently found in the United Arab Emirates?

Reply:

Article 21 of the Federal Criminal Code (Act No. 3 of 1987) stipulates as follows:

This Act applies to anyone who is present in the State after having committed or been a party to a crime of sabotage or disruption of international means of communication or crimes of trafficking in drugs, women or minors, or crimes of piracy and international terrorism.

1.10 Please indicate to the Committee whether the laws of the United Arab Emirates apply the principle *aut dedere aut judicare* in relation to the offences referred to in subparagraph 2 (c) of the resolution?

Reply:

The principle *aut dedere aut judicare* is a principle of public international law. Since the United Arab Emirates is a State that upholds the established principles of international public law, it applies this principle through the international and bilateral conventions to which it is a party. Its domestic legislation contains no provisions regulating this matter.

1.11 Is there a special law in force in the United Arab Emirates concerning mutual assistance in criminal matters? Are the principles of reciprocity and/or comity applied in that regard?

Reply:

There is no such law at the present time. The United Arab Emirates has an outstanding record in legal and judicial cooperation. This assistance is provided, on the basis of the principle of reciprocity or comity among States, when there are no international instruments regulating such cooperation. The United Arab Emirates is currently conducting a study with a view to enacting a special law on international legal and judicial cooperation.

1.12 Could the United Arab Emirates provide the CTC with an outline of the existing provisions aimed at criminalizing the forgery and falsification of passports and travel documents?

Reply:

According to article 217 of the Federal Criminal Code (Act No. 3 of 1987), forgery of an official document carries a penalty of up to 10 years in prison. Article 216 of the same Code illustrates the methods of forgery that are penalized by the Code as follows:

1. The alteration of an existing document, whether by means of an addition, a deletion or alteration of the wording, numbers, marks or images contained therein;

2. The placement of a forged signature or seal or the alteration of a genuine signature, seal or thumbprint;

3. The obtaining, by stealth or deceit, of the signature, seal or thumbprint of a person, without that person's being aware of the contents of the document or having given his genuine consent;

4. The fabrication or forgery of a document and its attribution to another person;

5. The filling in of a blank piece of paper bearing a signature, stamp or thumbprint, without the agreement of the person to whom the signature, seal or thumbprint belongs;

6. The assuming of another person's identity and its substitution in an identification document;

7. The misrepresentation in a document of a fact that the said document is being issued to prove.

1.13 The CTC notes that the United Arab Emirates aims at introducing progressive policy regarding border controls, including the issuance of a new "high-tech" passport to citizens, as referred to at page 11 of the first report. With regard to the measures pertaining to border control in the United Arab Emirates, the CTC would be grateful for the following information:

1.13.1 As regards the units of the armed forces formed to guard the borders, referred to at page 10 of the first report, has the United Arab Emirates put in place a unified data system for use at all entry/exit points? If such is not the case, how many entry/exit points, whether by air, land, or sea are covered by the existing data system?

Reply:

The responsibility for guarding the borders, referred to at page 10 of the first report, is assumed by the border guard units of the armed forces, which work in coordination with the Ministry of the Interior to refer offenders to the courts. The Ministry of the Interior has put in place, at all entry/exit points, a unified data system that includes the requisite information and data for all residents in the State and for persons arriving and departing therefrom, in addition to a system of lists of criminals. There are a total of 27 air, land or sea entry/exit points, all of which are covered by the unified system.

1.13.2 In relation to the executive measures, adopted pursuant to decision No. 360 of 1997 of the Interior Minister, referred to at pages 8 and 9 of the supplementary report, does the United Arab Emirates' system register data relating to travellers immediately upon entry/exit, or is the data registered subsequently on the basis of information filled in by travellers on hand-written cards at all entry/exit points?

Reply:

The State's registration system relating to travellers is based on data and information that has been previously stored on computers and that is derived from the traveller's travel documents, whether that person is a national, a resident or a visitor.

1.13.3 If "traveller data systems" are maintained at all border points, do these systems incorporate information of a "watch list" nature? If such is the case, is the information in question updated regularly, taking account of all relevant sources?

Reply:

Yes, this information is checked automatically against the watch list. The information is also updated by the relevant body whenever it receives new information.

1.13.4 Does the United Arab Emirates have laws and regulations in place imposing an obligation on common carriers to meet the cost of returning travellers, who have arrived at the United Arab Emirates' borders without adequate documentation, to their point of departure?

Reply:

The United Arab Emirates has regulations and laws relating to the entry and stay of aliens in the State. The Regulation issued by Ministerial decision No. 360 of 1997 specifies the conditions of entry by aliens into the State as follows:

Article 1

(a) A person must have a passport or travel document that is valid for entry to the State and for his return to his country of residence or to the country that issued the passport or document.

(b) For persons without a residence permit, the period of validity of the passport or travel document must be not less than six months. For persons in transit or arriving on special entry permits or on a visit or for business, the period of validity must be not less than three months.

(c) A person must have an entry visa or a residence permit that is valid according to the "conditions set down by law".

(d) A person must have a ticket for his onward journey or a return ticket in order to be permitted to enter the State on a transit visa or for business.

Article 4

The authorities with competence for admitting aliens at entry points must return the alien, if his passport or travel document is found to be in a condition such as the following:

(a) The photograph affixed to the passport or the travel document has been tampered with.

(b) The data registered by the authorities that issued the document or passport have been deleted, erased or altered.

(c) There is obvious wear and tear to the passport or the document such as to damage any or part of the data or the visas contained therein.

(d) The pages of the passport or document are numbered irregularly or any part thereof has been lost or removed.

Article 5

An alien to whom any of the conditions referred to in article 4 of this Regulation applies shall be returned, at his own expense and, whenever possible, by the same method of conveyance as that by which he arrived, or by another method, at a cost to be determined by the driver or pilot or the owner of, or agent for, the said means of transport.

Article 6

Ship captains and/or drivers or pilots of means of transport shall notify the competent authorities, upon the arrival or departure of the means of transport, of the names of passengers who do not have passports or the genuineness or validity of whose passports they doubt, or who do not have permits, visas or residence permits authorizing their entry or departure. They must prevent them from leaving or from boarding the means of transport.

1.13.5 Does the United Arab Emirates allow for the routine entry into or exit out of its territory by its nationals or by nationals from other States on production of a national identity card (as opposed to a passport)?

Reply:

There are bilateral conventions between the United Arab Emirates and the members of the Gulf Cooperation Council, excluding the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, providing facilities that make it possible for their respective nationals to travel on an identity card without needing to produce a passport. These conventions are based on the principle of reciprocity.

1.13.6 As regards the effective control on the issuance of identity papers and travel documents referred to in subparagraph 2 (g) of the resolution, does the United Arab Emirates issue national identity documents? If so, who is entitled to receive these documents? Is the system employed for issuing identity documents computerized? In that regard, could the United Arab Emirates also provide the CTC with information as to the type of data stored and the agencies with which such information is shared?

Reply:

The Ministry of the Interior, as represented by the Public Department for Nationality and Residence Affairs, issues an identity card to nationals, together with an employment card and a labour card for residents, for use and display within the State as required. All these documents are issued electronically, according to the data in the files of the persons concerned. The data stored in the identity card consist of the following:

Serial number; first name and surname; tribe; clan; father's name; mother's name; place of birth; date of birth; marital status; occupation; place of registration; registration number; distinguishing characteristics.

The employment card contains the following information:

Card number; file number; place of issuance; date of issuance; valid until; full name; nationality; date and place of birth; occupation; sponsor's name.

The labour card contains the following information:

Name; occupation; permit number; personal number; place of work; expiry date.

Some of this information is shared with the Ministry of the Interior, the Ministry of Labour and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. It is also worth noting that approval has been given for a proposal on the introduction of an identity card that will have a standard national number for both nationals and residents. The identity card will be issued to each individual national and resident and will be computer-readable, so that the identity of the holder can be accurately determined. Each individual will have a specific, national number that he or she will retain throughout his or her life. The card will be used by the individual in his dealings with the State.

1.14 The CTC notes that the United Arab Emirates has no legislation dealing specifically with extradition. As explained at page 12 of the supplementary report, this matter is left to the international and bilateral agreements to which the United Arab Emirates is a party. Does the United Arab Emirates plan to enact any specific legislation? If the answer to this question is in the negative, the CTC would be grateful to know how the United Arab Emirates plans to cooperate with other countries, in the absence of an extradition treaty or of extradition cases.

Reply:

We refer to the reply contained in point 1.11 of this report and should like to add that the proposed bill covers both legal assistance and the rules applicable to the extradition of criminals.

1.15 Could the United Arab Emirates indicate the steps, if any, which it may already have taken towards accession to the relevant international conventions and protocols on the suppression of terrorism referred to in the resolution to which the United Arab Emirates is not as yet a party?

Reply:

Since its previous report, the United Arab Emirates has deposited instruments of ratification relating to the Convention on the Physical Protection of Nuclear Materials and the International Convention Against the Taking of Hostages. The State is in the process of completing the constitutional procedures for ratification of the International Convention for the Suppression of Terrorist Bombings, and the competent committee is examining the remaining conventions referred to in the Security Council resolution.

1.16 The CTC notes the response which the United Arab Emirates has given in relation to extraditable offences at page 13 of the supplementary report. However, the CTC would like to receive an outline of the relevant provisions in the domestic law of the United Arab Emirates which correspond to the offences set out in the international instruments on the suppression of terrorism, to which the United Arab Emirates is already a party, with a view to establishing the double-criminality principle as a prerequisite for making the relevant offences extraditable under the

bilateral treaties, concluded by the United Arab Emirates, and referred to at pages 12 and 13 of the supplementary report.

As already indicated, the United Arab Emirates is incorporating the acts that constitute terrorist crimes into its laws. We can also confirm that cooperation on the extradition of criminals has been given on the basis of reciprocity and comity among States.

1.17 The CTC would welcome receiving a progress report on the conclusions reached by the committee responsible for reviewing the Federal Penal Code (Law No. 3 of 1987) with a view to amending the Code, while taking into account:

(a) the obligations laid down in the relevant international conventions, as referred to at page 13 of the supplementary report; and

(b) the wider application of the provisions of the Code to terrorist crimes and the confiscation of related funds, as referred to at page 14 of the supplementary report.

Reply:

The committee has drawn up a list of the matters and acts that must be criminalized, as referred to in subparagraphs (a) and (b) above, and is currently drafting a legal text, which we hope will be completed in the next few months.

1.18 As regards the status of political refugees under article 38 of the Constitution of the United Arab Emirates, referred to at page 14 of the supplementary report, could the United Arab Emirates outline their statutory reasons for refusing extradition requests? In this regard, could the United Arab Emirates provide the CTC with the criteria for determining a political offence under its domestic law? Are any of the offences mentioned under subparagraph 2 (c) of the resolution considered to constitute "political offences" under the domestic laws of the United Arab Emirates? If not, the CTC would appreciate receiving the relevant domestic provisions.

Reply:

There is no domestic law establishing the legal criteria for dealing with extradition requests or for determining a political offence. Reliance is placed on the rules of international law in general and on the international conventions that apply in this regard.

According to the prevailing practice in the United Arab Emirates, none of the crimes mentioned in subparagraph 2 (c) of the resolution is considered to constitute a political offence. Moreover, the State has acceded to a number of bilateral, regional and multilateral conventions which exclude terrorist crimes from the scope of political offences.

1.19 The CTC is aware that the United Arab Emirates may have covered some or all of the points in the preceding paragraphs in reports or questionnaires submitted to other organizations involved in monitoring international standards. The CTC would be content to receive a copy of any such report or questionnaire as part of the United Arab Emirates' response to these matters as well as details of any efforts to implement international best practices, codes and standards which are relevant to the implementation of resolution 1373.

Reply:

In its report on the results of the joint evaluation of the United Arab Emirates, the Financial Action Task Force on Money Laundering (FATF) found that the Emirates had enacted appropriate legislation and established appropriate procedures to suppress money-laundering operations. It described it as cooperating well with international efforts to suppress money-laundering. The FATF group therefore found that the Emirates was not among the States and regions that were failing to cooperate in this domain.

Likewise, the Egmont Group received an application from the unit for the suppression of money-laundering and the detection of suspicious cases, which asked to be admitted as a full and permanent member of the Group, after the Group had reviewed the laws, statutes and procedures applied by the United Arab Emirates to suppress money-laundering. The Group's technical and legal committee confirmed that those laws, statutes and procedures comply with international requirements in this regard and thus it decided to accept the unit as a member. The unit is the first member of the Group to come from a State in the Middle East and Africa region.

In addition to the above, and as a token of our solidarity with international efforts to combat terrorism following the events of 11 September 2001, the Central Bank has implemented the relevant Security Council resolutions. It has issued regulations and instructions to banks, currency exchange offices and other financial institutions operating in the Emirates, asking them to search for and to freeze any accounts, deposits or investments owned by terrorist leaders, terrorist organizations or by persons who assist terrorists and whose names are included in Security Council lists or those of the Office of Foreign Assets Control of the United States Department of the Treasury. The results obtained were collated and submitted to the relevant authorities in the Emirates, which fulfilled their obligations under the law by forwarding them to the Security Council and to the United States authorities. These measures taken by the Emirates have helped the competent authorities in the United States of America to apprehend certain leaders suspected of committing terrorist acts. After the events of 11 September 2001, the Central Bank received eight United States investigation teams, whose members included, inter alia, representatives of the Federal Bureau of Investigations, customs officials and officials from the Department of the Treasury, the Internal Revenue Service and the Department of State. During those visits, 60,000 pages of documents and files were handed over to the teams, enabling the relevant United States authorities to track and monitor transfers to and from the United States of America. The United States authorities subsequently sent letters to the Central Bank thanking it for the cooperation it had given to the competent authorities for helping them to procure information and for the positive outcomes of the ensuing investigations.

2. Assistance and guidance

2.1 The CTC is eager to facilitate the provision of assistance and advice in connection with the implementation of the resolution. The Committee would encourage the United Arab Emirates to let it know if there are areas, in which assistance or advice might be of benefit to the United Arab Emirates in its implementation of the resolution or of any areas in which the United Arab Emirates might be in a position to offer assistance or advice to other States on the implementation of the resolution.

Reply:

Contact was made with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime at Vienna to explore the possibility of holding a workshop on the national implementation of conventions concerning terrorism. We hope that one will be held during the first half of 2004.